[Mr. K. N. Ramasubba Aiyar.]

balance of Rs 205·65 lakhs. I have already referred to the sinking fund accumulations for discharging our obligations for the Shencottah-Quilon Railway line. There is another special sinking fund which we started for discharging our Debenture Loan of 1091. The loan money raised was B. Rs 14·49 lakhs and the sinking fund accumulation stands at Rs 5·24 lakhs as at the close of the current year. It will be seen that we hold specially ear-marked securities against these sinking fund balances, which are quite apart from the securities which form part of our surplus investments.

28. The steady rise in our savings bank deposits which stood at Rs 54 lakhs at the close of the last year and which are expected to go up to Rs 62 and 68 lakhs at the close of the current year and next year respectively, is a welcome sign. The interest payable on these savings bank deposits is more than covered by the interest earnings on our investments of surplus cash balances, in fixed deposits and Government of India securities.

29. I have stated that the Government Account will close in the next year with a balance of Rs 116·69 lakhs which may be considered a satisfactory figure.

CONCLUSION.

30. I have now to request members to give their careful consideration to the Budget which is before the House.

LEGISLATION.

THE HACKNEY CARRIAGE REGULATION AMENDING BILL.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Sir, I rise to introduce a Bill to amend the Hackney Carriage Regulation, VI of 1089. The Bill has been published in the Gazette with the statement of objects and reasons and I beg to move that the Bill be read in Council.

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): I second it.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Sir, the Hackney Carriage Regulation was passed with a view to control and license the hackney carriages as well as their drivers. Under the provisions in the Regulation and the bye-laws passed there under, when a hackney carriage is licensed, a number-plate has to be affixed to the carriage to show the register number of the carriage and, when a driver is licensed, he has to be given a driver's badge. Further, under the bye-laws, a fare-plate showing the authorised fares for the carriages from one place to another has also to be affixed in the carriages themselves. These three things, *viz.*, the number-plates, the drivers' badges and the fare-plates cost some money to the Government

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly